

CHAPTER 2B. REGULATORY SIGNS

Section 2B.01 Application of Regulatory Signs

Standard:

Regulatory signs shall be retroreflective regardless of any illumination.

Section 2B.03 Size of Regulatory Signs

Standard:

The following changes or additions to Table 2B-1 for regulatory sign sizes in the MUTCD shall be applicable in North Carolina:

**Changes/Additions to MUTCD
Table 2B-1 - Regulatory Sign Sizes**

SIGN	MUTCD CODE	CONVENTIONAL ROADS	MINIMUM	OVERSIZED
STOP	R1-1	* 36" x 36" (900 mm x 900 mm) ** 30" x 30" (750 mm x 750 mm) * Preferred size for conventional roads ** Size only allowed on low volume roads as defined in Section 5A.01 of the MUTCD	* 24" x 24" (600 mm x 600 mm) *Residential use only	48" x 48" (1200 mm x 1200 mm)
4-WAY	R1-3	24" x 8" (600 mm x 200 mm)	12" x 8" (300 mm x 200 mm)	36" x 12" (900 mm x 300 mm)
ALL WAY	R1-4	24" x 8" (600 mm x 200 mm)	18" x 8" (450 mm x 200 mm)	36" x 12" (900 mm x 300 mm)

**Changes/Additions to MUTCD
Table 2B-1 - Regulatory Sign Sizes (Cont'd)**

SIGN	MUTCD CODE	CONVENTIONAL ROADS	MINIMUM	OVERSIZED
LANE CONTROL	R3-5 SERIES R3-6			36" x 48" (900 mm x 1200 mm)
LANE CONTROL	R3-7			36" x 48" (900 mm x 1200 mm)

Standard:

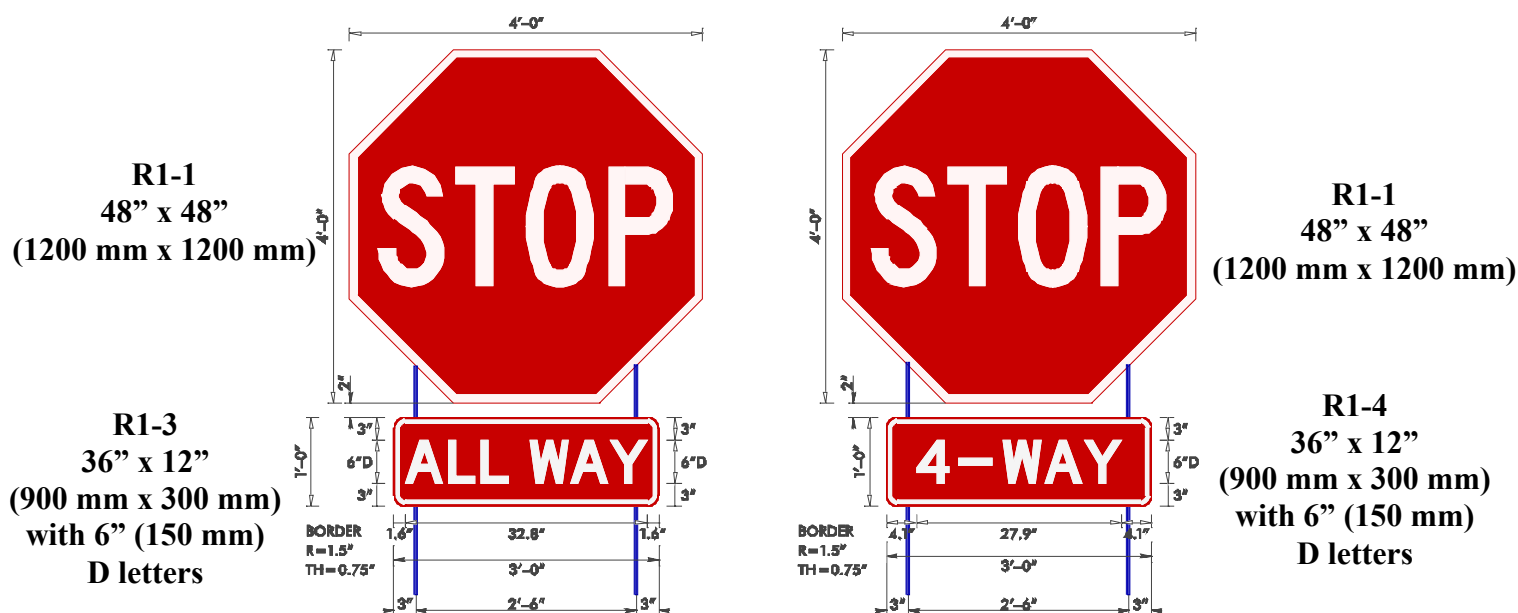
The 18" x 24" (450 mm x 600 mm) size shown in the Minimum column for the One Way (R6-2) sign shall not be used. All R6-2 signs shall be at least 24" x 30" (600 mm x 750 mm).

Section 2B.04 STOP Sign (R1-1)

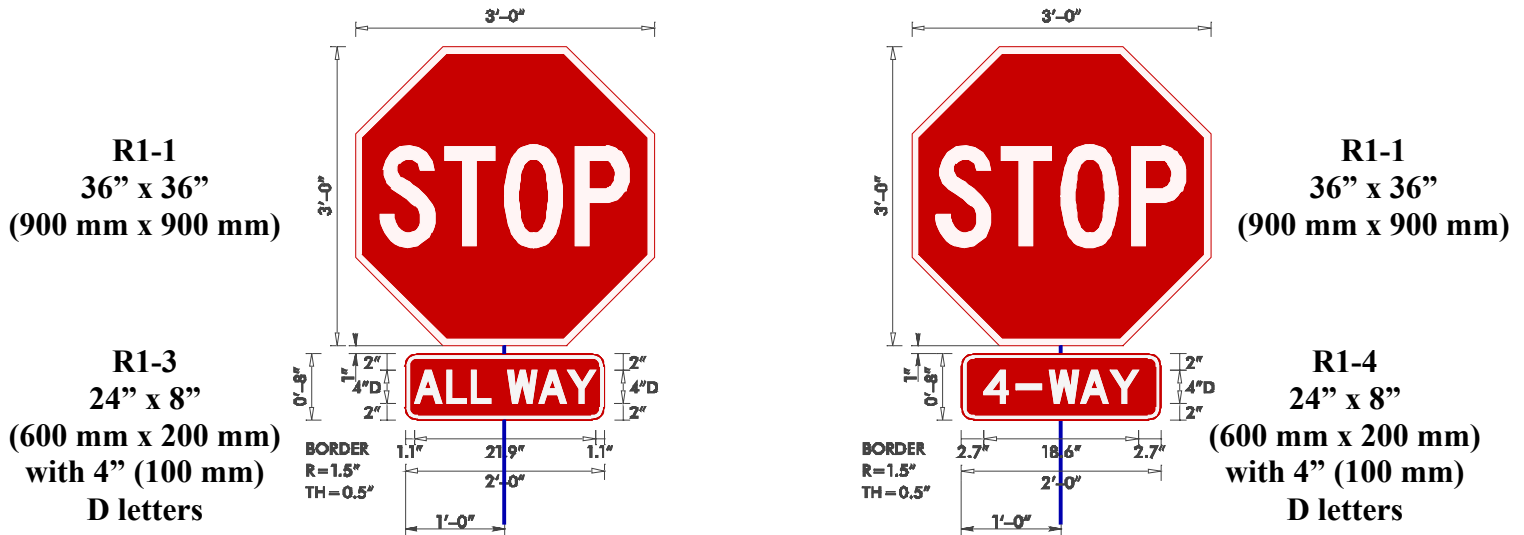
Standard:

STOP signs shall be made of minimum Type III High Intensity retroreflective sheeting.

When a 48" x 48" (1200 mm x 1200 mm) STOP sign is required with a 4-WAY or ALL WAY supplemental plaque, the following designs shall be used:



When a 36" x 36" (900 mm x 900 mm) STOP sign is required with a 4-WAY or ALL WAY supplemental plaque, the following designs shall be used:



Section 2B.13 Speed Limit Sign (R2-1)

Support:

North Carolina's statutory speed limit is 55 mph (90 km/h) outside municipal corporate limits and 35 mph (60 km/h) inside municipal corporate limits.

Standard:

The 36" x 48" (900 mm x 1200 mm) SPEED LIMIT 55 (R2-1) sign shall be posted near the State line on all conventional roads and expressways entering the State where the 55 mph limit is applicable.

On Interstate and freeway facilities, the standard size for Speed Limit signs shall be 48" x 60" (1200 mm x 1500 mm).

Metric speed limit signs shall not be used.

Guidance:

The sizes for Speed Limit signs should be as shown in the following table:

Speed Limit Sign Sizes

SPEED LIMIT (MPH)	RECOMMENDED SIZE OF R2-1 SIGN
40 or less	24" x 30" (600 mm x 750 mm)
45	24" x 30" (600 mm x 750 mm) or 30" x 36" (750 mm x 900 mm)
50	30" x 36" (750 mm x 900 mm) or 36" x 48" (900 mm x 1200 mm)
55	30" x 36" (750 mm x 900 mm) or 36" x 48" (900 mm x 1200 mm) or 48" x 60" (1200 mm x 1500 mm)
60 and greater	48" x 60" (1200 mm x 1500 mm)

Section 2B.18 Location of Speed Limit Signs

Guidance:

On roadways having a 55 mph (90 km/h) or higher speed limit, the R2-1 signs should be posted at a maximum interval of 5 miles (8 km).

The maximum distance between speed limit signs should be as listed below:

<u>Posted Speed Limit</u>	<u>Maximum Distance Between Signs</u>
40 mph to 50 mph (70 km/h to 80 km/h)	2110 feet (650 m) [0.4 mi.]
30 mph to 35 mph (50 km/h to 60 km/h)	1580 feet (480 m) [0.3 mi.]
20 mph to 25 mph (30 km/h to 40 km/h)	1060 feet (320 m) [0.2 mi.]

Additional signs should be installed beyond major intersections and at other locations where it is desirable to remind drivers of the speed limit.

Standard:

At the end of the speed zone, a speed limit sign showing the posted speed limit shall be erected. See Figure NC-2B-1.

For divided highways with medians, the signs on the speed zone approach (the W3-5, the W3-5 and W16-2a assembly, and the first R2-1) shall be dual mounted (mounted on each side of the road).

Guidance:

The remaining speed zone signing in the median should be kept to a minimum.

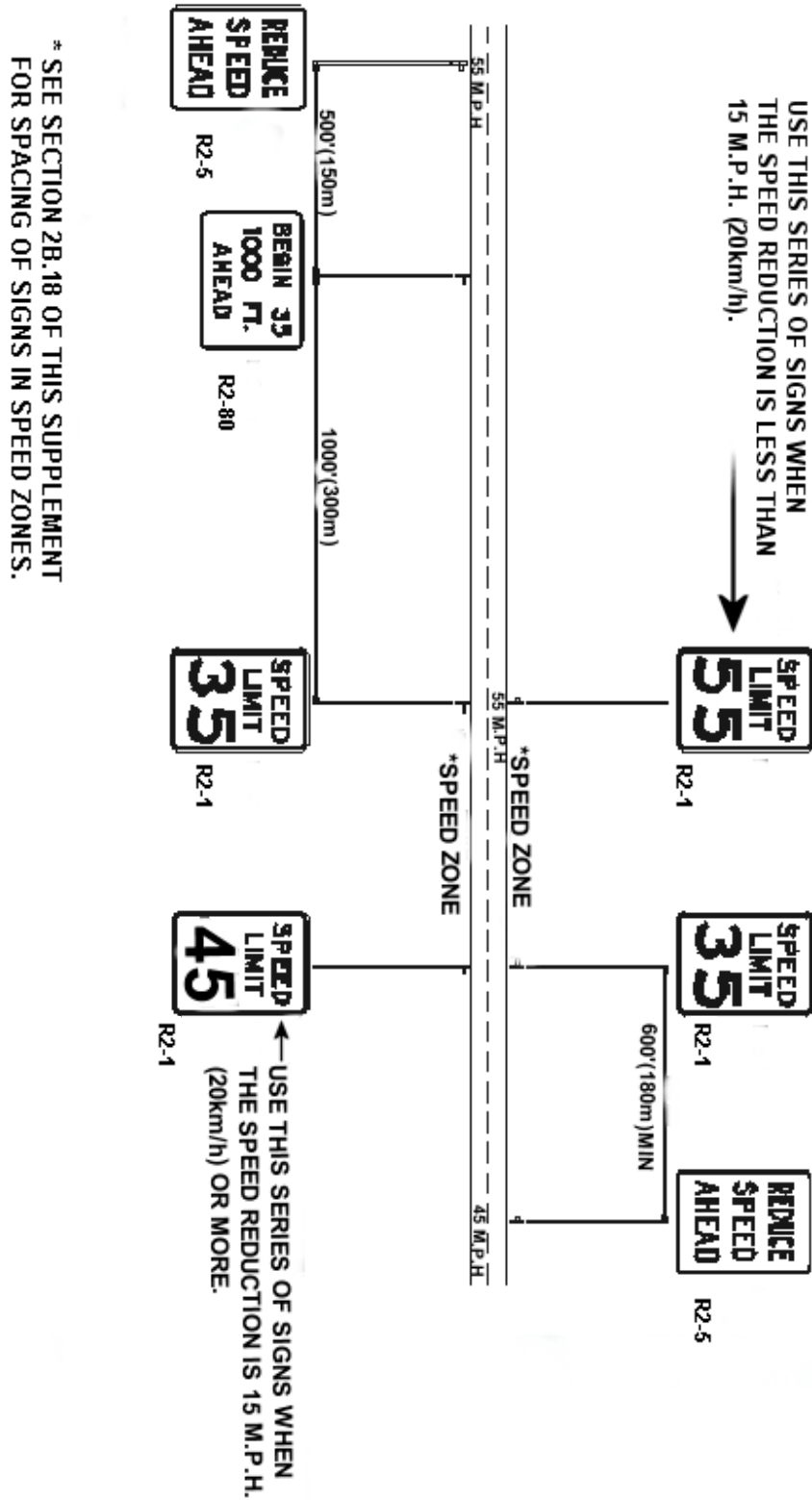


FIGURE NC-2B-1
STANDARD SIGNING FOR SPEED REDUCTION ZONE

Section 2B.18.A State Line Supplemental Speed Limit Plaques (R2-22, R2-23)**Standard:**

The R2-22 and R2-23 plaques shall only be used with the SPEED LIMIT 55 (R2-1) sign to make up a three panel assembly. The R2-22 and R2-23 plaques shall be mounted on the same posts as the R2-1 sign located at or near the State Line where the 55 mph (90 km/h) speed limit is in effect. If the road entering the State carries a restricted speed zone, the assembly shall be at the first point the speed limit is 55 mph (90 km/h). From top to bottom, the mounting order shall be: STATEWIDE (R2-22), SPEED LIMIT 55 (R2-1), and UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED (R2-23) (see North Carolina Standard Roadway Drawing No. 909.60(S), Sheets 1 and 2).



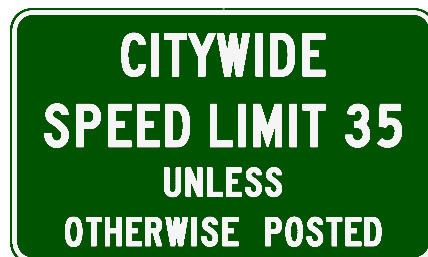
R2-22
36" x 10"
(900 mm x 250 mm)



R2-23
42" x 14"
(1050 mm x 350 mm)

Section 2B.18.B City Limit Supplemental Speed Limit Sign (R2-27)**Standard:**

For towns or cities with populations of 5,000 or more, the CITYWIDE SPEED LIMIT 35 UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED (R2-27) sign shall be posted at or near the city limit. The size of the sign posted on major streets entering the city shall be 60" x 36" (1500 mm x 900 mm), and for minor streets the size shall be 42" x 30" (1050 mm x 750 mm). For towns or cities with a population of less than 5,000, the 35 MPH speed limit sign shall be posted within the speed zone (see Section 2B.18 for sign location). If the speed limit is different than the 35 MPH shown on the R2-27 sign, a R2-1 sign shall be installed at or near the R2-27 sign.



R2-27

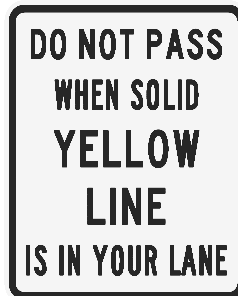
42" x 30" (1050 mm x 750 mm)
60" x 36" (1500 mm x 900 mm)

Section 2B.29.A Passing Prohibition Sign (R4-80)

Option:

The Passing Prohibition (R4-80) sign may be used to inform motorists that it is unlawful (per General Statute 20-150) to pass another vehicle going the same direction if a solid yellow line is in their lane.

This sign may be used whenever emphasis is needed to support this regulation.



R4-80

24" x 30" (600 mm x 750 mm)

36" x 48" (900 mm x 1200 mm)

Section 2B.29.B DO NOT PASS IN CENTER LANE Sign (R4-81)

Option:

The DO NOT PASS IN CENTER LANE (R4-81) sign may be used to supplement the R3-9a and R3-9b signs to prevent passing in center lanes that are marked as two-way left turn only lanes.



R4-81

36" x 42"

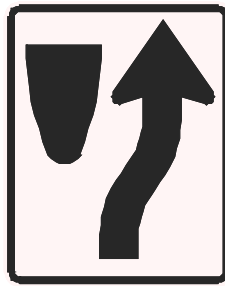
(900 mm x 1050 mm)

Section 2B.33 Keep Right and Keep Left Signs (R4-7, R4-8)**Guidance:**

The Keep Right (R4-7) sign should be used on Y-lines with raised islands separating directions of travel. On mainline divided facilities, these signs should be installed on the first island or gore separation only.

Support:

Sheets 1 and 2 of North Carolina Standard Roadway Drawing No. 909.30(S) contains information regarding the use of this sign.

**R4-7****18" x 24" (450 mm x 600 mm)****24" x 30" (600 mm x 750 mm)****36" x 48" (900 mm x 1200 mm)****48" x 60" (1200 mm x 1500 mm)****Option:**

Additional installations may be used on intermediate ends of divisional islands and medians on Y-lines.

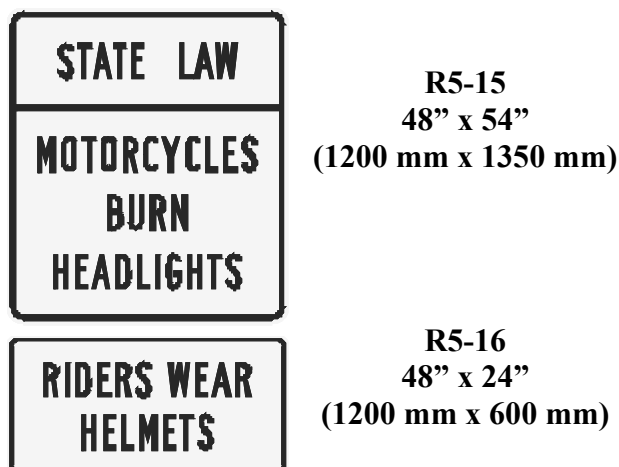
Section 2B.35 WRONG-WAY Sign (R5-1a)**Guidance:**

The WRONG WAY (R5-1a) sign should be used to supplement the DO NOT ENTER sign where an exit ramp intersects a crossroad or a crossroad intersects a one-way roadway in a manner that does not physically discourage or prevent wrong-way entry. The WRONG WAY sign should be placed at a location along the exit ramp or the one-way roadway farther from the crossroad than the DO NOT ENTER sign (see North Carolina Standard Roadway Drawing No. 909.10(S), Sheets 1 through 4). If the WRONG WAY sign would be visible to traffic to which it does not apply, the sign should be angled away from, or shielded from, the view of that traffic.

**Section 2B.36.A STATE LAW-MOTORCYCLES BURN HEADLIGHTS Sign (R5-15),
RIDERS WEAR HELMETS Plaque (R5-16)**

Standard:

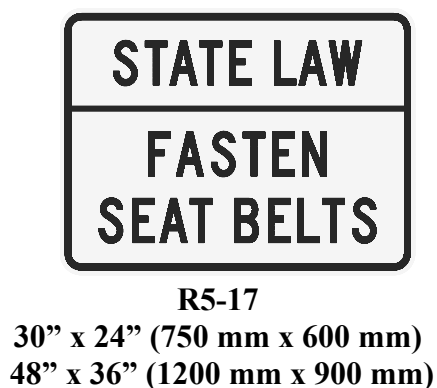
The STATE LAW-MOTORCYCLES BURN HEADLIGHTS (R5-15) sign and the RIDERS WEAR HELMETS (R5-16) plaque shall be placed on all primary and Interstate highways at the State Line. The R5-16 plaque shall be attached to the same post beneath the R5-15 sign.



Section 2B.36.B STATE LAW-FASTEN SEAT BELTS Sign (R5-17)

Option:

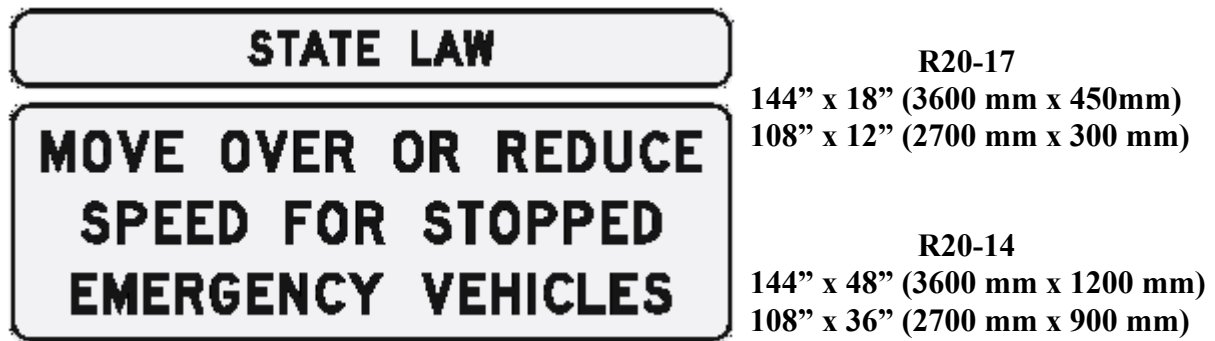
The STATE LAW-FASTEN SEAT BELTS (R5-17) sign may be placed on primary and Interstate highways at the State Line. The R5-17 sign may be erected side-by-side adjacent to the R5-15 and R5-16 signs (see North Carolina Standard Roadway Drawing No. 909.10(S) Sheets 1 and 2).



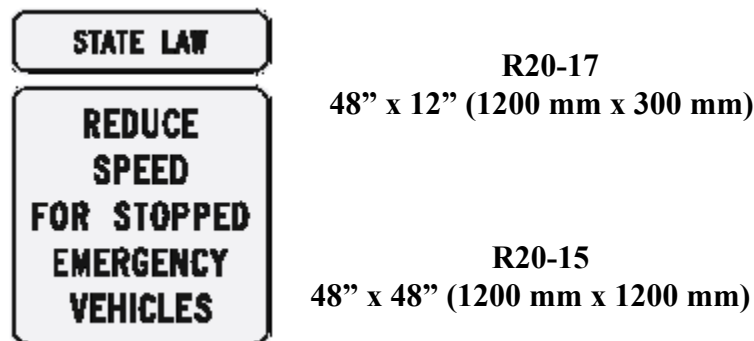
Section 2B.36.C MOVE OVER OR REDUCE SPEED FOR STOPPED EMERGENCY VEHICLES Signs (R20-14 and R20-15)

Standard:

The **MOVE OVER OR REDUCE SPEED FOR STOPPED EMERGENCY VEHICLES (R20-14)** sign shall be erected near the State Line on all four-lane divided facilities entering the state. When erected at the State Line, the R20-17 sign shall be part of an assembly with the R20-14 sign. The R20-14 sign shall be used only on four-lane divided or multi-lane facilities with two or more travel lanes in the same direction (see North Carolina Roadway Standard Drawing No. 909.60(S), Sheet 1).



The **REDUCED SPEED FOR STOPPED EMERGENCY VEHICLES (R20-15)** sign shall be used only on two-lane roadways. When erected at the State Line, the R20-17 sign shall be part of an assembly with the R20-15 sign.



Option:

Additional signs may be erected at specific locations as requested by the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, the Division of Motor Vehicles, or other emergency management officials, as approved by the Division Engineer.

Support:

See General Statute 20-157.

Section 2B.36.D FENDER BENDER MOVE VEHICLE FROM ROAD Sign (R20-16)

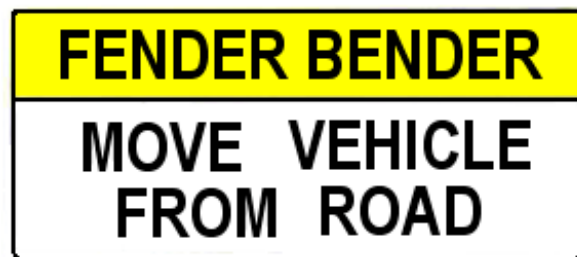
Option:

The FENDER BENDER MOVE VEHICLE FROM ROAD (R20-16) sign may be erected at specific locations on the State Highway system as requested by the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, the Division of Motor Vehicles, or other emergency management officials, as approved by the Division Engineer, to advise motorists that vehicles involved in minor crashes can be moved off the roadway legally (see General Statute 20-166).

The R20-16 sign may be installed at selected locations on other State Highway facilities where high traffic volumes create a potential for major traffic delays when crashes occur.

Guidance:

The FENDER BENDER MOVE VEHICLE FROM ROAD (R20-16) sign should be installed on all Interstate facilities at selected locations, as determined by the Division Engineer.



R20-16
78" x 36" (1950 mm x 900 mm)

Section 2B.39 Parking, Standing, and Stopping Signs (R7 and R8 Series)

Guidance:

The RESERVED PARKING for persons with disabilities sign (without arrow) (R7-8a) should be used to designate a single parking space reserved (per General Statute 20-37.6(d)) for the physically impaired.



R7-8a
12" x 18"
(300 mm x 450 mm)

Support:

Where either the Board of Transportation or municipal ordinance prohibits parking on system roads and streets, the installation and maintenance of appropriate NO PARKING signs (R7 Series) are the responsibility of the Division of Highways or the municipality.

Standard:

Where parking is permitted on system roads and streets but a municipality desires to control its duration or type, the signs shall be the responsibility of the municipality. They shall be installed and maintained at no expense to the Division of Highways.

Option:

The following signs may also be used to regulate parking:

R7-301
12" x 18"
(300 mm x 450 mm)



R7-301
12" x 18"
(300 mm x 450 mm)
18" x 24"
(450 mm x 600 mm)

The NO OVERNIGHT PARKING (R7-302a) sign may be placed in rest areas throughout the State and Welcome Centers at the State Line to prevent misuse of these facilities.

R7-302a

18" x 24"
(450 mm x 600 mm)

The R7-302b sign may be erected above the REST AREA NEXT RIGHT sign or the WELCOME CENTER (TOURIST INFORMATION CENTER) NEXT RIGHT sign on the approach to the facility.



NO OVERNIGHT PARKING

**R7-302b
108" x 16"
(2700 mm x 400 mm)**

Section 2B. 55 Public Vehicular Area Sign (R20-1)

Option:

Upon approval by the appropriate Division Engineer, a property owner may designate an area of private property used for vehicular traffic as a public vehicular area to allow enforcement of vehicular violations.

Standard:

If an area of private property used for vehicular traffic has been designated as a public vehicular area (see G.S. 20-4.01(32) and G.S. 20-219.4), a standard NCDOT approved Public Vehicular Area (R20-1) sign shall be installed at the driveway or roadway entrance(s) to the area or outside the right of way for areas with adjacent non-public vehicular areas. The following conditions shall apply:

- The Division Engineer shall approve the location of the public vehicular area. Requests for these signs shall be made to the Division Engineer for the appropriate traffic engineering review.
- Public vehicular areas are not allowed within the fully controlled access limits of the right-of-way on the State Highway System.
- The Public Vehicular Area signs shall not interfere with or impair the effectiveness of official highway signs.
- Prior to sign erection, the location shall have been registered in the office of the Division Engineer and all costs for the registration of the public vehicular area shall have been paid by the person or organization requesting permission to erect such signs.
- The cost of the sign, the cost of the erection of the signs, and the maintenance cost of the signs shall be the responsibility of the person or organization requesting permission to erect such signs.

The sign shall be 36" x 36" (900 mm x 900 mm), shall have a retroreflective white background with a non-reflective black legend and border, and shall have the layout and message as shown below.



R20-1
36" x 36"
(900 mm x 900 mm)

Section 2B.56 NO DUMPING ALLOWED Sign (R20-2)

Option:

The NO DUMPING ALLOWED (R20-2) sign may be used at a location where the practice of dumping trash on the right-of-way is prevalent.



R20-2
18" x 24" (450 mm x 600 mm)
24" x 30" (600 mm x 750 mm)

Section 2B.57 NO FISHING FROM BRIDGE Sign (R20-3)

Guidance:

The NO FISHING FROM BRIDGE (R20-3) sign should be erected where there is a problem with fishing from bridges on Interstate or other controlled-access highways (see Section 19A of the North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC) 2E.0408).

Support:

Counties and municipalities have the authority to regulate fishing from all bridges in the State Highway System that are not controlled-access highways. This also includes the draw span of any regularly attended drawbridge. See General Statutes 136-102.5, 153A-242, and 160A-302.1. This sign does not have to be reflectorized.



R20-3
24" x 30"
(600 mm x 750 mm)

Section 2B.58 NO JUMPING OR DIVING FROM BRIDGE Sign (R20-4)

Standard:

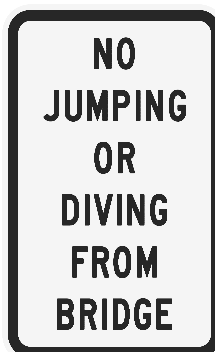
The **NO JUMPING OR DIVING FROM BRIDGE (R20-4)** sign shall be erected after an ordinance has been enacted by the Board of Transportation to prevent jumping or diving from a designated bridge on the State Highway System (see General Statute 136-18(5) and Section 19A of the North Carolina Administrative Code (NCAC) 2E.0411).

Guidance:

Immediately upon erecting the **NO JUMPING OR DIVING FROM BRIDGE** sign, the local law enforcement agency should be notified in writing.

Support:

This sign does not have to be reflectorized.



R20-4
15" x 24"
(375 mm x 600 mm)

Section 2B.59 TRUCKS FOLLOW US-NC ROUTES Sign (R20-5)

Option:

This sign may be used in municipalities where it is desirable to restrict through trucks to primary routes.



R20-5
48" x 60"
(1200 mm x 1500 mm)

Section 2B.60 MAX FINE \$1000 TO LITTER Sign (R20-6)

Option:

This sign may be used along those highways where littering is a problem to inform road users of G.S. 14-399, which states that it is unlawful to litter the right-of-way of a State Highway or public road located outside of an incorporated town.



R20-6
30" x 30"
(750 mm x 750 mm)

Section 2B.61 Right-Of-Way Signs (R20-7, R20-8, R20-9, R20-10)

Standard:

Signs R20-7 through R20-9 shall be erected on the right-of-way line parallel to the roadway. They shall be erected at locations determined by the Division or District Engineer.

The R20-7 sign shall be used where concrete right-of-way monuments have not been placed and the distance to the right-of-way line on both sides of the centerline is the same. The appropriate distance shall be shown on the sign.

The R20-8 sign shall be used where concrete right-of-way monuments have been placed.

The R20-9 sign shall be used where concrete right-of-way monuments have not been placed and the distance to the right-of-way line is not the same on both sides of the centerline. The appropriate distance shall be shown on the sign.

Guidance:

Signs R20-7 through R20-9 should be used sparingly.

Option:

The R20-10 sign may be used where right-of-way is controlled to provide adequate sight distance.

Guidance:

The R20-10 sign should be erected parallel to the sight distance right-of-way line.

Support:

The R20-7 through R20-10 signs do not have to be reflectorized.



Section 2B.62 STATE OWNED PROPERTY NO TRESSPASSING NCDOT (R20-11),
STATE OWNED MATERIALS NO TRESSPASSING NCDOT (R20-11a) Signs

Option:

The R20-11 sign may be used at material stockpile locations where the property is owned by the Department of Transportation. The R20-11a sign may be used at locations where state-owned material is stockpiled in an area that is not owned by the Department of Transportation.



R20-11
36" x 24"
(900 mm x 600 mm)



R20-11a
36" x 24"
(900 mm x 600 mm)

Section 2B.63 STATE MAINTENANCE ENDS Sign (R20-12)

Option:

The R20-12 sign may be used to indicate where a State road ends and a city street or private road begins.

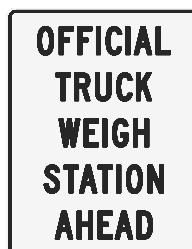


R20-12
30" x 24"
(750 mm x 600 mm)

Section 2B.64 OFFICIAL TRUCK WEIGH STATION AHEAD Sign (R20-13)

Guidance:

The R20-13 sign should be used only in advance of portable truck weigh stations.



R20-13
42" x 54"
(1050 mm x 1350 mm)